Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Young men and women from across South Dakota answered the call to service during World War II and left a legacy of that generation that lives on in the freedoms we cherish and enjoy; and,

Whereas, A national memorial in Washington, D.C., honoring their service was completed and dedicated in 2004. Even the youngest of the surviving WWII veterans was nearly 80 years old at the time the memorial was completed; and,

Whereas, The *Honor Flight Network* was established in 2004 in Springfield, Ohio, to provide aging veterans an opportunity to visit their National Memorial in Washington, D.C., and has inspired the creation of Honor Flight organizations across the nation toward a goal of providing a free trip and assistance for WWII veterans to the National Memorial; and,

Whereas, *Honor Flight South Dakota* has been incorporated as a non-profit corporation and a member of the *Honor Flight Network* to provide the same opportunity to WWII veterans from across South Dakota and surrounding areas; and,

Whereas, The goal of *Honor Flight South Dakota* is to fund a series of chartered air flights from South Dakota to Washington, D.C., in the spring 2009, which are free to all veterans, with priority given on a first-come, first-served basis to WWII and terminally ill veterans; and,

Whereas, *Honor Flight South Dakota* gratefully accepts donations from anyone for this project, except from WWII veterans, who have already given enough; and,

Whereas, *Honor Flight South Dakota* will launch a statewide fund-raising effort in the week beginning December 7, 2008:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim December 7 – 13, 2008, as

HONOR FLIGHT SOUTH DAKOTA WEEK

in South Dakota, and I encourage all citizens to support this worthy effort, all WWII veterans to apply for participation, and I ask all South Dakota citizens to honor and thank all veterans for their service to our state and nation.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Second Day of December in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State